

REMARKS

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 10, 12, and 14-17 were previously pending. As per the current amendment, claim 10 has been amended and claim 23 has been added. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request review of claims 10, 12, 14-17, and 23, and submit that the presently pending claims are in condition for allowance.

35 USC 103(a)

Claims 10, 12, and 14-17 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boguraev et al., US Patent No. 6,185,592 (hereinafter “Boguraev”), in view of Chase, US Patent No. 6,332,143 (hereinafter “Chase”), and further in view of Paik et al., US Patent No. 6,076,088 (hereinafter “Paik”).

In reference to independent claim 10, Applicants respectfully submit that Boguraev in view of Chase and Paik does not describe all of the features of the claim. More specifically, Boguraev in view of Chase and Paik does not at least describe a “feature term {being} proceeded by a definite article.”

Boguraev describes determining discourse referents, which are determined by locating discourse segmentation components (i.e., {}, (), “”, <>, [], ‘’, and vertical spacing), and does not describe use of definite articles for determining a feature term as in the present invention. Paik describes determining Co-Referential Proper Names (column 14, line 30, to column 16, line 13), which consists of determining sequential nouns and boundary points, and describes use of prepositions to link subjects as related to the other portions of a segment. Paik does not describe, though, the use of definite articles to determine feature terms to be used for analysis, as in the present invention. Chase describes analyzing each word in a document to determine if the word has a denotive meaning. Therefore Chase also does not describe the use of definite articles to determine feature terms.

Since Boguraev in view of Chase and Paik does not describe all of the features of independent claim 10, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 10 is in condition for

allowance. Additionally, since claims 12, 14-17, and 23 depend from independent claim 10 and independent claim 10 is in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 12, 14-17, and 23 are also in condition for allowance.

Support for New Matter in Original Specification

Applicants respectfully submit that support for the matter in amended claim 10 and new claim 23 exists, for example, in paragraph 37 of the published patent application for the presently pending application (US2005/0091038).

Conclusion

For at least the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If Examiner wishes to discuss any portion of the docket or prosecution, Examiner is invited to telephone Brian Lambert at 408-927-3364.

Respectfully Submitted,

/Brian Lambert/

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